



Juan Cole

Juan Cole
University of Michigan



"Shiite Politics and the Future of Iraq"

**Monday, October 31, 2005
 12:00 p.m.
 Mershon Center
 Room 120**

Watch this lecture:



Juan R. I. Cole is Professor of Modern Middle East and South Asian History at the History Department of the University of Michigan.

He has written extensively about modern Islamic movements in Egypt, the Persian Gulf, and South Asia. His current research focuses on two contemporary phenomena: 1) Shiite Islam in Iraq and Iran and 2) the "jihadi" or "sacred war" strain of Muslim radicalism, including al-Qaeda and the Taliban among other groups. Cole commands Arabic, Persian and Urdu and reads some Turkish, knows both Middle Eastern and South Asian Islam, and lived in a number of places in the Muslim world for extended periods of time. His most recent book is *Sacred Space and Holy War* (IB Tauris 2002). This volume collects some of his work on the history of the Shiite branch of Islam in modern Iraq, Iran and the Gulf. He treated Shi'ism in his co-edited book, *Shi'ism and Social Protest* (Yale, 1986), of his first monograph, *Roots of North Indian Shi'ism in Iran and Iraq* (California, 1989).

His interest in Iranian religion is further evident in his work on Baha'i studies, which eventuated in his 1998 book, *Modernity and the Millennium: The Genesis of the Baha'i Faith in the Nineteenth Century Middle East* (Columbia University Press). He has also written a good deal about modern Egypt, including a book, *Colonialism and Revolution in the Middle East: Social and Cultural Origins of Egypt's `Urabi Movement* (Princeton, 1993). His concern with comparative history and Islamics is evident in his edited *Comparing Muslim Societies* (Michigan, 1992).